

QUARTERLY REPORT
January - March 1988

During this quarter, there was a considerable increase in UFO report activity, especially regarding photo cases. The Fund's Chairman, Dr. Bruce Maccabee, has been working on two cases in particular: the case of Peter Beard in England, and "Mr. Ed" (pseudonym) in Gulf Breeze, Florida. Both of these cases have involved an expenditure of funds for investigation and photographic analysis.

The Beard case involves four photos taken on August 5, 1987, in Barnsley, England, which is about 35 miles east-northeast of Manchester. This was a little over a week before a concentration of sightings began in the Derby area of England, roughly 60 miles south of Barnsley. Beard stated that he was awakened around 5:00 AM by a "buzzing" noise which made him think that there was a fly in the room on the window which was just above the head of his bed. He got up to swat the fly and, in doing so, looked out the window. He saw no fly, but he did see a strange object approaching from his right. It was sufficiently unusual that he immediately concluded it was something worth photographing.

His girlfriend woke up because Beard was shaking the bed a little as he moved around. She heard the noise and watched the object while Beard got a camera he had borrowed to use on a fishing trip which had occurred the previous weekend. (The camera is a C-110 format, automatic wind, with two fixed settings, 44 and 22 mm, and fixed shutter speed of 1/125 sec.). Comparison photos confirm that he selected the 44 mm focal length. According to Beard, he proceeded to take four photos over some tens of seconds as the object flew "lazily" along, first right-to-left, and then reversing. As his girlfriend stated in an interview, it acted as if "it was trying to decide which direction to go next." After the fourth photo, the automatic camera jammed. (According to the British investigators on this case, it also jammed several times while they were testing it.) He didn't realize it had jammed; he just thought it was out of film. By the time he realized that lack of film wasn't the problem, the object had disappeared. According to his girlfriend, it must have left suddenly, because she turned around just momentarily to look at Beard struggling with the camera, and when she turned back, the object was gone. The photo sequence appears to show an object which moves from the right to the left, getting closer in doing so, and then moves back to the right and away slightly.

The Fund has received excellent cooperation from the British investigators, including in particular Philip Mantle, who has been coordinating the investigation.

The second photo case involves so many incidents that there is no hope of summarizing it here in any coherent fashion. Just the first incident (Nov. 11, 1987) would, under ordinary circumstances, require days or weeks' worth of

time to thoroughly investigate. Readers of the recent MUFON Journal will have an idea of the complexity of these Gulf Breeze sightings. Dr. Maccabee, upon the recommendation of Budd Hopkins, Don Ware and others, travelled to Gulf Breeze to interview "Mr. Ed" (or simply "Ed") and remained at his house for 14 hours. During this time, all of the photographic incidents were discussed. These photos are especially notable because of (a) the clarity of the photos and (b) the credibility of the witnesses, in particular of Ed, who is a well-known businessman in his area. (He wishes to remain as much as possible out of the public eye and therefore has asked that his true name and his profession not be used. He is known to a number of MUFON investigators, a CUFOS investigator and several members of the news media, all of whom have agreed to maintain his confidentiality as much as possible.)

Dr. Maccabee was particularly impressed with Ed's 19th photo, which has been called the "road shot." This picture, taken through the front window of his truck, shows a "craft" hovering over the road ahead. Although the photo was taken in the late evening, there was enough sky glow so that the tree line is visible, as are the stripes along the sides of the road, and other nearby features. Maccabee used Ed's Polaroid (Model 108) camera and Ed's truck to reconstruct the sighting exactly (except for the "craft") for photographic purposes. He was able to determine that the apparent distance of the craft was about 185 feet; it was about 12 feet in diameter and about eight feet high. The object appeared to be about three feet over the road at the time of the sighting. It cast light on the road, making a reflection that created an image that was nearly as bright as the image of the light that came directly from the bright bottom of the craft. Maccabee attempted to create a reflection of similar brightness using a 100,000 candlepower spotlight (similar to a car headlight) that was shone onto the road. At 185 feet distance, the reflection made hardly any image at all; even at three feet, the reflection was not as bright as the reflection of the light from the craft. Maccabee concluded that the source of light in the craft was extremely bright, perhaps corresponding to the brightness of an aircraft searchlight.

At the time of Maccabee's visit, Ed had taken 23 photos using his old Polaroid camera and a 1 minute videotape. These are all being studied by various experts. Since Maccabee's visit, Ed has taken nine UFO photos with a NIMSLO 3-D camera (Feb. 26), a photo with a new Model 600 Polaroid camera (March 8), and two stereo photos with a special Self-Referencing Stereo Camera (March 17 and 20). The importance of these photos is that with a stereo camera, it should be possible to estimate the distance to the object by the parallax (the convergence of sighting lines from two separated locations). The NIMSLO photos are still being analyzed, but in any event were taken with a very short baseline (the maximum lens separation is about three inches). Ed built the SRS camera according to Maccabee's suggestions and placed two Polaroid Model 600 cameras at a two-foot spacing. There is a pole sticking out from the frame that holds the two cameras. At the end of the pole is a nail that appears in both fields of view. This provides a parallax reference. He took test photos of objects at known distances. They show that the camera can

clearly distinguish between objects at 10 or 20 feet (e.g., hoax models) and objects at hundreds of feet or greater. In his March 17 SRS camera photo, the parallax effect corresponds to an object greater than 160 feet away. In his March 20 photo, the line of sight to the object in the left-hand camera was partially blocked by a tree about 60 feet away. In this second case, there was "negative parallax" (the lines of sight diverged). This could be explained by the fact that Ed was not able to operate both cameras simultaneously; there may have been 1/2 second or more between when he pushed the right-hand camera shutter and when he pushed the left-hand camera shutter. Therefore, if the object had moved slightly (e.g., about four feet if it were 300 feet away) during the 1/2 second or so between the camera shots (e.g., eight feet/second or about six MPH), then the sighting lines would not converge. Ed did not notice the tree branches blocking the line of sight to the left camera because he only looked through the viewfinder of the right camera.

Both of the above cases are under continuous investigation. The possibility that either or both of these is a hoax is being carefully considered. However, it should be pointed out that the Gulf Breeze photo case in particular seems extremely difficult to fake since it involves many different photos (27 as of this writing by Ed and 11 photos by two other anonymous photographers), different types of cameras (Ed has used Polaroid Model 108, Polaroid Model 600 and a Sony video camera; an anonymous photographer used a C-110 format "minicamera") and stereo photos. Furthermore, Ed is not alone in reporting sightings of strange objects in the area. Numerous daylight disc and nightlight-type sightings over the past four months have been reported with perhaps as many as a hundred witnesses, excluding Ed and his family. Many of these other cases are multiple witness sightings.

The FUND also became involved in the investigation of the Mundrabilla, Australia, incident of January 20, 1988. In this case, four people in a car travelling in the "wilds" of southwestern Australia reported a strange lighted object which nearly made them travel off the road and which seemed to lift their car. It seems that there were other witnesses to a strange lighted object in the area as well. The FUND has supported the investigators and will be receiving a final report on the sightings in the near future.

When reports on all case investigations are completed, they will be made available for sale to FUND contributors and will automatically be sent to contributors of \$50 or more during the 1988 calendar year.

Other activities of the FUND in the last quarter have centered on the analysis of responses to the December OMNI abduction questionnaire. These responses range from the simple "filling in the blanks" of the questionnaire to long, complex letters. The FUND has arranged to analyze a number of the responses to determine the probability that any respondees are so-called "abductees." A computer data base is being set up to do comparisons. A preliminary report on the survey results is available from the FUND for \$5.00 (see the enclosed

Reply Form). The FUND also will be supporting Dr. David Jacobs in the chemical analysis of samples of fluids which he has obtained from abductees. Reports on all of these activities will be made available as soon as possible.

Treasurer's Report **1st Quarter 1988**

Total Assets

<u>End of 1st Quarter</u>	<u>End of 4th Quarter</u>
Checking Account.....\$5,606.91	\$2,536.78
Savings & Loan.....\$1,465.32	1,446.26
Dreyfus Account..... 691.87	680.82
TOTALS	\$7,764.10

\$4,663.86

Expenditures

Mail services.....\$2,296.18
Grants/investigations 1,745.90
Other..... 399.74
Supplies..... 161.80

TOTALS \$4,603.62

Income

Donations.....\$4,982.35
Sales..... 3,319.19
Interest..... 30.11

\$8,331.65

To all of our contributors: thank you for responding to our request for a contribution of \$5 or more to defray the cost of sending the Quarterly Report to you through 1988. Your commitment means we will have more funds available to conduct significant scientific investigations of UFO sightings such as those in Gulf Breeze, FL; Barnsley, England; and Mundrabilla, Australia; as well as analyses of the MJ-12 material and traces of fluids associated with abduction cases. Reports on all of these cases will be forwarded to contributors of \$50 or more in 1988 as soon as they are available.

We also thank those who purchase reports, books and audio-visual materials from the FUND who also include payment for postage. This helps keep down the cost of reproducing these items.

We should call your attention to the fact that the FUND has several reports available that have not been offered before. Besides the preliminary report on the OMNI Abduction Questionnaires, we now have the complete abduction catalog compiled by Dr. Thomas E. Bullard, which is available in two volumes. Volume I was previously offered for sale; however, some copies were missing the final 64 pages, and those who received copies ending with pages numbering up to 348 now have the opportunity to receive the balance. Volume II is now available for the first time. They are a significant contribution to UFO research.